Docket No.: S63.2-6769

APR 2 8 2000

PATENT IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

DEMANDICATION of:

Brian J. Brown, et al.

Application No.:

09/197,278

Filed:

November 20, 1998

For:

LONGITUDINALLY FLEXIBLE

EXPANDABLE STENT

Examiner:

Unknown

Group Art Unit:

3738

Box Non-Fee Amendment

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

In regard to the above-identified application, we are submitting the attached: 2 page Response to Restriction Requirement; VAS transmittal; and postcard

With respect to fees: 2.

Ø No additional fee is required.

Attached is check(s) in the amount of \$

Charge additional fee to our Deposit Account No. 22-0350.

CONDITIONAL PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

This conditional petition is being filed along with the papers identified in Item 1 above and provides for the possibility that Applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition and fee for extension of time or for a petition and fee for any other matter petitionable to the Commissioner as required. If any extension of time for the accompanying response is required or if a petition for any other matter is required, by petitioner, Applicant requests that this be considered a petition therefor.

Notwithstanding paragraph 2 above, if any additional fees associated with this communication are required 4. and have not otherwise been paid, including any fee associated with the Conditional Petition for Extension of Time, or any request in the accompanying papers for action which requires a fee as a petition to the Commissioner, please charge the additional fees to Deposit Account No. 22-0350

By:

VIDAS, ARRETT & STEINKRAUS

Date: April 25, 2000

Registration No.: 41,795

6109 Blue Circle Drive, Suite 2000 Minnetonka, MN 55343-9131 Telephone: (612) 563-3000

Facsimile: (612) 563-3001

Certificate Under 37 CFR 1.8: I hereby certify that this Transmittal Letter and the paper(s) as described herein, are being deposited in the U.S. Postal Service, as First Class Mail, addressed to Box Non-Fee Amendment, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231, on April

Rebecca M. Painschab





IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Brown et al.

Application No.:

09/197,278

Filed:

November 20, 1998

For:

IMPROVED LONGITUDINALLY

FLEXIBLE EXPANDABLE STENT

Examiner:

Lien Ngo

Group Art Unit:

3731

Box Non-Fee Amendment

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Docket No: S63.2-6769

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In response to the Restriction Requirement issued March 27, 2000, please amend the application as follows.

In the Claims

Please amend claims 8, 14 and 16 as indicated:

- 8. (Amended) The stent of claim 3 wherein at least some of the peaks on the first band-like elements are circumferentially displaced on the periphery of the stent from the troughs on adjacent second band-like elements.
- 14. (Amended) The stent of claim 1 wherein [each] at least one peak is connected with a second nearest trough on an adjacent band-like element.
- 16. (Amended) The stent of claim 1 <u>including</u> [wherein the] interconnecting elements <u>which</u> extend between [a] peaks and [a] second closest troughs on an adjacent band-like element.